

Tuesday, 18 July 2017

Economic issues 'Unemployment' and 'The Economy' top the list of concerns for Australians in mid-2017

In mid-2017, 38% of Australians believe the economy or some kind of economic issue to be the most important problem facing **Australia**. This is 3% higher than in March 2017 although down 4% compared to a year ago in mid-2016.

Economic issues were mentioned by more Australians than the next three sets of issues combined. 13% mentioned Religion, Immigration and Human Rights issues; 12% mentioned Government, Politics and Leadership issues; 10% mentioned Climate change or another Environmental issue and 10% mentioned a Social issue like Education, Crime, Drugs and drug abuse and Welfare.

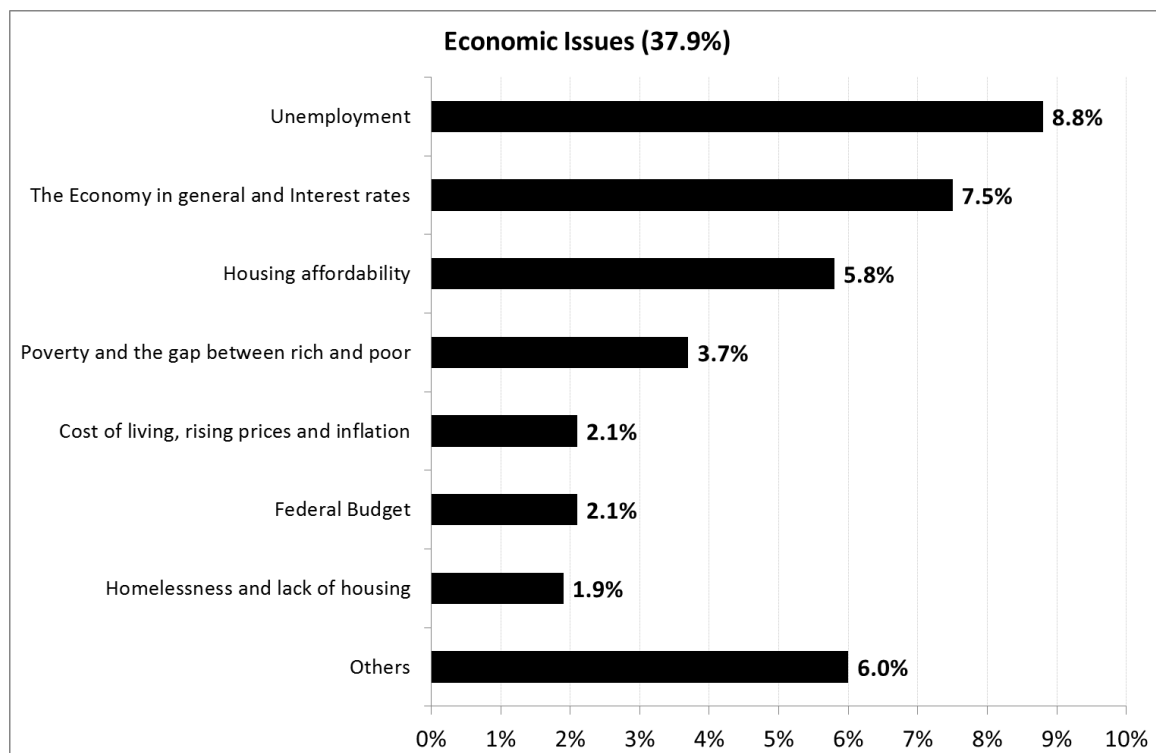
The overall picture was covered extensively in our release on broader Australian Concerns released a fortnight ago and available to view [here](#). We look here at economic concerns in greater detail.

Australian Economic Issues dominated by Unemployment, Economy & Housing

Within the group of Economic & Financial issues the most important issues are:

- **Unemployment** mentioned by 9% of respondents: Unemployment verbatim comments ranged from the simple lack of jobs and jobs available, the lack of employment opportunities available for younger people, to the problems with immigration impacting on availability of jobs and the threat posed by robots to manufacturing jobs.
- **The Economy in general and Interest rates** mentioned by 8% of respondents: Verbatim comments about this theme were centred around concerns about the Australian economy with the high debt and deficit a recurring theme, general economic problems, the lack of industries in Australia and the way the Australian economy depends on global economic conditions; and
- **Housing affordability** which was mentioned by 6% of respondents: Housing affordability verbatim comments referred to the soaring house prices and the growing gap between 'haves' and 'have-nots' as well as the overseas buyers pushing up prices in the housing market.

Most Important Economic Problems Facing Australia



Source: Roy Morgan interviewed a representative cross-section of 648 Australians in May 2017.

Other Economic issues mentioned by 2% - 4% of respondents included Poverty and the gap between rich and poor on 4%, Cost of living, rising prices and inflation on 2%, Federal Budget on 2% and Homelessness and lack of housing on 2%.

Some 6% of respondents gave a broad range of economically related issues including General taxation, Banks and Bank interest rates, Financial or money problems, General Infrastructure: Energy, Water, Internet etc., Globalisation and fairer world trade, Over-population, Over-reliance on Mining industry and the impact of mining and Farming, cut food imports and support our farmers. None of these issues were mentioned by more than around 1% of people.

Analysis of Economic Concerns by Voting intention

Analysing the question by Federal voting intention shows a very different pattern of concerns for the different party supporters. First 49% of L-NP supporters nominate an Economic issue as the biggest problem facing **Australia** – clearly higher than the national average while ALP supporters (39%) are almost in line with the broader community and only 24% of Greens supporters nominate Economic issues as the most important problems facing **Australia**.

L-NP supporters clearly regard The Economy in general and Interest rates (15%) as the biggest problem facing **Australia** ahead of Unemployment (12%) and Housing affordability (5%).

ALP supporters regard Unemployment (10%) as the biggest problem ahead of Housing affordability (7%) and are evenly split on the third most important problem with 4% nominating The Economy in general and interest rates, Cost of living, rising prices and inflation, Poverty and the gap between rich and poor and the Federal Budget.

In contrast to supporters of the two larger parties Greens supporters easily regard Poverty and the gap between rich and poor as the most important Economic issue facing **Australia** (11%) more than double the response for Unemployment (5%) and Housing affordability (4%).

Most Important Problem Facing Australia – Economic Issues by Voting Intention

	May 2017	VOTING INTENTION				
		L-NP	ALP	GREENS	IND/OTH	CAN'T SAY
		%	%	%	%	%
Unemployment	8.8	11.7	9.8	4.8	4.9	16.3
The Economy in general and Interest rates	7.5	14.6	3.6	-	9.0	1.3
Housing affordability	5.8	5.1	7.1	4.1	7.6	5.6
Poverty and the gap between rich and poor	3.7	2.0	4.3	10.8	4.0	1.3
Cost of living, rising prices and inflation	2.1	2.0	4.4	-	-	-
Federal Budget	2.1	3.7	1.4	-	4.7	-
Homelessness and lack of housing	1.9	0.8	3.3	0.5	1.6	4.5
Total Other Economic Issues	6.0	9.0	5.3	4.1	4.7	1.8
Comprising of the below:						
General taxation – Mining tax, Resource tax etc.	1.4	2.5	1.6	-	1.0	-
General infrastructure: Energy, Water, Internet etc.	1.3	1.0	1.2	3.0	1.3	-
Over-reliance on mining and the impact of mining	1.3	2.3	0.4	1.1	-	1.8
Over-population	0.6	0.4	0.6	-	2.4	-
Globalisation and fairer world trade	0.5	1.0	-	-	-	-
Financial or money problems	0.4	0.5	0.7	-	-	-
Banks and Bank interest rates	0.3	0.4	0.8	-	-	-
Farming, cut food imports and support our farmers	0.3	0.9	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ECONOMIC/ FINANCIAL ISSUES	37.9	49.0	39.1	24.3	36.4	30.7

Unemployment verbatim comments ranged from the simple lack of jobs and jobs available, the lack of employment opportunities available for younger people to the problems with immigration impacting on availability of jobs and the threat posed by robots to manufacturing jobs.

L-NP supporters on Unemployment

The 11.7% of L-NP supporters who mentioned unemployment were most likely to bring up jobs going to folks from overseas, and Australia's immigration costing locals jobs as well as the regional impacts of a lack of jobs along with more general commentary about the problem of unemployment.

"Not having enough jobs for Australians and giving away jobs to other countries"

"Employment – more needs to be done for the Australian people, we need to stop employing foreign workers and start employing more Australian workers"

"Not having enough jobs for Australians and too much immigration"

"Every State has probably got the same problem, ie. Jobs"

"Jobs I suppose – unemployment"

"Job stability"

"Unemployment – percentage of unemployed and jobs available"

"Unemployment and under-employment. The rise of casual employment is a problem and high unemployment in regional areas"

"Unemployment – there's a large number of people in Centrelink and we have an ageing population"

"Downsizing in manufacturing and employment"

"The lack of work for people"

ALP supporters on Unemployment

The 9.8% of ALP supporters who mentioned unemployment brought up the decline in Australia's manufacturing industry and referenced problems facing Australia's youth with reduced employment opportunities and higher under-employment. Also – robots got a mention as a threat to employment.

"Unemployment and the lack of manufacturing"

"Unemployment and in particular youth unemployment"

"Unemployment – youth unemployment and general unemployment being at its highest level since John Howard has been out of office"

"Unemployment is the big issue – Big companies downsizing and sacrificing experienced staff"

"Employment – they need to focus on the unemployment rates"

"There's a lack of jobs"

"Reduction in full-time permanent jobs"

"Job security and housing affordability"

"Unemployment and the ongoing poverty and social problems it creates"

"Unemployment due to robots"

Greens supporters on Unemployment

The small number of Greens supporters who mentioned unemployment as an issue (4.8%) were most likely to mention youth unemployment and there was also mention made of the employment impact of a reducing mining extraction industry.

"Getting young people jobs"

"Under-employment and unemployment and a lack of jobs for young people and opportunities related to cost of living"

"Not enough jobs and too much immigration"

"Unemployment because there are concerns over long-term industry, the heavy industry and primary industry in Queensland. I don't see BHP and similar companies having long futures."

Verbatim respondent comments on leading Australian Economic Issues: The Economy in general

The Economy in general and Interest rates were centred around concerns about the Australian economy with the high debt and deficit a recurring theme, general economic problems, the lack of industries in Australia and the way the Australian economy depends on global economic conditions.

L-NP supporters on The Economy in general

The 14.6% of L-NP supporters who mentioned The Economy in general often referred to Australia's national debt as a huge problem and the issues with getting that debt down and managing the economy properly to lower the debt. There were also sparing references to the deficit, maintaining a profitable economy and general financial instability and a potential GFC 2.0.

"Australian debt"

"Getting our debt down"

"The economic problems – our huge debt"

"Australia's financial position, ie the extent of the country's debt, needs to be addressed"

"Economic issues around debt and deficit"

"Our deficit and the size of it"

"Another GFC will see a lot of people in trouble"

"Financial instability"

"How to maintain a profitable economy"

"Sales keep falling so economic might of Australia is less every year"

ALP supporters on The Economy in general

Only 3.6% of ALP supporters mentioned the economy as the biggest problem facing Australia, and when they did, that's usually all they referred to although a few did refer to the economy slowing and the national debt – though clearly not at the rate L-NP supporters did.

"The economy"

"The economy – and the high national debt"

"I think it's our general economic situation. I think there's obviously a downturn and it's really going to impact Australia, especially Western Australia which is traditionally a mining space but not so much anymore so now we are in a bad space"

"The national debt"

"The economy because it's slowing down"

"The financial situation is dire with too much debt and we need to be looking at ways of dealing with it without taxing the lower class"

Independent/ Others supporters on The Economy in general

The 9.0% of supporters of Independents and Other parties – including One Nation, most frequently mentioned Australia's debt, but also mentioned disappearing industries, like the car industry, and under-performing economy generally and even global financial pressures.

"The economy and how to deal with the debt"

"I would say the debt we have. We have a huge debt"

"Economics. We talk about housing and jobs but it all comes down to economics"

"An under-performing economy"

"The lack of industry with Australia not having many factories; businesses don't get rewarded enough for doing business in Australia"

"The global financial downturn"

"We are having a bit of a problem with key industries disappearing. For example the car industry. There are a lot of big industries that will start up to replace those. If we make our own versions of those industries it will put a large influx of economic activity to those areas thus making Australia more self-sufficient."

Michele Levine, CEO Roy Morgan, says:

*“Economic Issues have dominated in **Australia** since February 2011 when Environmental issues were briefly considered the major problem facing **Australia**. In mid-2017 more Australians mentioned Economic issues (38%) than the next three sets of issues combined (35%).*

*“Driving the concerns in **Australia** are Unemployment – mentioned by 9% of respondents, The Economy in general and Interest rates mentioned by 8% and Housing affordability mentioned by 6% of respondents. This is the highest ever national figure for Housing affordability and the increase is concentrated in Australia’s capital cities (mentioned by 8%) rather than regional Australia (mentioned by just 2%). Unsurprisingly, Sydney is the most impacted with Housing affordability mentioned by 12% of respondents cf. Melbourne (7%) cf. Brisbane (10%).*

*“Other significant Economic issues include Poverty and the gap between rich and poor (4%), Cost of living, rising prices and inflation (2%), The Federal Budget (2%) and Homelessness and lack of housing (2%) which were also widely mentioned as significant problems facing **Australia**.*

*“Analysing by Federal voting intention shows that nearly half of L-NP supporters (49%) nominate an Economic issue as the most important problem facing **Australia** clearly ahead of ALP supporters (39%) and Greens supporters (only 24%).*

“The leading Economic issue according to L-NP supporters is The Economy in general and Interest rates nominated by just under 15% of L-NP supporters ahead of Unemployment (just under 12%). ALP supporters are most concerned about Unemployment – mentioned by just under 10% of respondents ahead of Housing affordability (7%) while Greens supporters are clearly most concerned about Poverty and the gap between rich and poor – mentioned by 11%. ”

In Australia, a cross-section of 648 men and women aged 14 or over were interviewed by telephone on the nights of May 22-24, 2017. Respondents were asked: “What do you think is the most important problem facing the **World** today?” and “What do you think is the most important problem facing **Australia** today?”

These findings come from a special Roy Morgan telephone survey conducted in Australia on attitudes towards issues facing **Australia** and the **World** in the future. The research conducted was both **qualitative** (in that people were asked to use their own words) and **quantitative** (in that the ‘open-ended’ responses were analysed and ‘coded’ so that the results could be counted and reported as percentages).

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Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. The following table gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. The figures are approximate and for general guidance only, and assume a simple random sample. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate			
	40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
500	±4.5	±3.9	±2.7	±1.9
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
2,000	±2.2	±1.9	±1.3	±1.0

Most Important Problem Facing Australia

Australia

	Oct 2014 %	Jan 2015 %	Apr 2015 %	July 2015 %	Oct 2015 %	May 2016 %	Oct 2016 %	Mar 2017 %	May 2017 %
The Economy/ Economic problems/ Interest rates	9	9	15	10	11	13	10	9	8
Housing affordability	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	6
Cost of living issues/ Rising prices/ Inflation	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
General Taxation – Mining Tax, Resource Tax etc.	1	1	1	*	*	1	*	-	1
Banks/ Bank interest rates	-	*	-	*	-	-	*	*	*
Financial problems/ Money issues	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	*
(SUB TOTAL) TOTAL Financial Issues/ Cost of Living	13	13	21	15	13	18	14	15	16
Unemployment	11	13	13	9	11	11	13	10	9
Poverty, & Gap between rich and poor	3	2	3	3	4	4	5	3	4
Federal Budget	3	2	2	1	*	1	1	*	2
Homelessness/ Lack of housing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2
General Infrastructure/ Energy, Water, Internet etc.	1	*	1	1	1	1	*	*	1
Globalisation/Fairer world trade	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1
Over-population	1	1	1	*	1	*	*	1	1
Over reliance on Mining Industry/ Impact of Mining	1	2	2	2	2	2	*	*	1
Farming/ Cut food imports and support our farmers	-	*	*	1	*	1	*	-	*
Foreign ownership & investment/ Selling our assets	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	*	-
Transport/ Transport infrastructure/ Road & rail	1	*	*	*	1	1	*	*	-
TOTAL Economic/ Financial issues (INCLUDING Carbon Tax)	36	38	49	37	38	42	37	35	38
Immigration/ Immigration policy	2	2	3	3	4	6	6	5	4
Refugees and Asylum seeker problems	3	2	2	4	4	2	5	1	3
Multiculturalism/ Integration/ Assimilation	2	1	*	1	2	2	1	2	2
Racism/Racial tensions	1	2	*	2	1	1	1	1	2
Aboriginal Issues/ Health/ Rights	1	*	1	1	*	1	*	*	1
Human rights (Including gay rights)	2	-	1	1	2	1	1	2	1
Intolerance/Discrimination	1	1	1	*	*	1	*	2	1
Religion/ Religious fundamentalism	3	1	1	1	3	*	3	2	1
TOTAL Religion/ Immigration/ Human Rights	15	8	9	13	16	13	16	14	13
Politics/ Political system/ Too much Government spending	4	5	3	7	3	5	7	7	8
Leadership from Politicians/ Courage to lead/ Lack of vision	3	4	5	3	5	4	4	4	3
Donald Trump	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	*	1
Malcolm Turnbull/ The Prime Minister	3	2	2	2	-	-	2	*	*
TOTAL Government / Politics/ Leadership	10	11	10	13	8	9	12	11	12
Climate change/ Global warming	5	6	4	7	7	7	9	9	8
General Environmental issues	1	2	2	3	1	2	3	2	2
Pollution/ Rubbish	-	*	*	*	*	*	-	*	*
Water conservation	-	*	*	1	1	1	1	*	*
Drought	*	1	1	1	1	1	*	*	-
Famine/ Food shortages	*	-	*	*	*	-	-	-	-
Natural disasters – Floods, Earthquakes, Bushfires	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Environmental Issues	7	9	6	11	10	10	13	12	10
Educational issues	2	4	2	2	1	4	2	3	3
Anger/Violence/Aggression	1	1	1	*	1	1	1	*	1
Crime/ Law & Order	1	1	1	1	*	1	1	1	1
Drugs and drug abuse	1	1	3	2	4	1	2	2	1
Greed/ Corporate greed/ Materialism	1	*	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Social apathy/Family breakdowns/ Selfishness/Moral decline	3	4	2	2	2	3	3	3	1
Social Welfare, Welfare Dependency	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Corruption	-	-	1	1	*	*	*	*	*
Youth issues (Homelessness/ Apathy etc.)	1	1	1	*	*	1	*	1	*
TOTAL Social Issues	10	13	13	10	10	13	10	12	10
Terrorism	6	8	2	4	6	2	2	1	2
Relations with other countries, Indonesia, USA etc.	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1	1
Security, Safety	2	2	1	*	1	1	1	*	1
Wars and Conflicts	3	*	1	*	*	-	-	*	1
World Peace	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-
TOTAL Terrorism/Wars/Security/Safety	11	11	3	5	8	4	4	3	5
Sustainable management of natural resources	*	1	1	2	1	1	*	*	2
Energy crisis	1	-	-	*	*	-	-	5	1
Depletion of fossil fuels	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	*
Petrol prices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Energy Crisis/ Depletion of Fossil Fuels/Petrol Price	1	1	1	2	1	1	*	5	4
General health issues	4	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	3
Hospitals	*	-	-	*	-	1	*	-	*
TOTAL Health Issues	4	3	3	4	3	4	2	2	3
Other	*	*	*	*	5	4	5	5	4
Can't say	6	6	6	5	1	-	1	1	1
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

*Less than 1%.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Most Important Problem Facing Australia

Australia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

	May 2017 %	STATES						CITY/COUNTRY	
		NSW %	VIC %	QLD %	WA %	SA %	TAS# %	CITY %	COUNTRY %
The Economy/ Economic problems/ Interest rates	8	7	6	9	9	8	11	6	10
Housing affordability	6	9	6	6	1	2	5	8	2
Cost of living issues/ Rising prices/ Inflation	2	3	1	2	4	-	5	2	2
General Taxation – Mining Tax, Resource Tax etc.	1	2	-	3	-	2	-	2	1
Banks/ Bank Interest rates	*	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-
Financial problems/ Money issues	*	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
(SUB TOTAL) TOTAL Financial Issues/ Cost of Living	16	22	13	20	16	13	22	19	14
Unemployment	9	7	9	9	3	20	25	9	9
Poverty, & Gap between rich and poor	4	5	4	-	1	9	8	5	2
Federal Budget	2	1	1	1	6	5	-	2	3
Homelessness/ Lack of housing	2	2	3	1	1	-	4	1	3
General infrastructure/ Energy, Water, internet etc	1	1	1	2	-	2	-	1	2
Globalisation/ Fairer world trade	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Over-population	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	*	1
Over reliance on mining/ impact of Mining	1	1	*	1	5	-	-	1	2
Farming/ Cut food imports and support our farmers	*	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Foreign ownership & investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transport/ Transport Infrastructure/ Road & rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Economic/ Financial issues (INCLUDING Carbon Tax)	38	42	33	36	31	49	59	38	37
Immigration/ Immigration policy	4	3	5	3	3	3	-	4	3
Refugees and Asylum seeker problems	3	3	4	4	2	2	6	3	3
Multiculturalism/ Integration/ Assimilation	2	-	1	2	8	-	4	2	1
Racism/ racial tension	2	1	3	3	-	2	-	2	2
Aboriginal Issues/ Health/ Rights	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	*	1
Human Rights	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	*
Intolerance/Discrimination	1	2	1	-	4	-	-	2	*
Religion/ Religious fundamentalism	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	*
TOTAL Religion/ Immigration/ Human Rights	13	11	16	16	20	8	10	15	11
Politics/ Political system/ Too much Government spending	8	9	5	10	12	6	12	8	9
Leadership from Politicians/ Courage to lead/ lack of vision	3	1	6	3	1	-	-	3	3
Donald Trump	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	*	1
Malcolm Turnbull/ The prime Minister	*	1	1	-	1	-	-	*	1
TOTAL Government/ Politics/ Leadership	12	10	12	13	14	6	12	11	14
Climate Change/ Global warming	8	8	11	5	2	11	-	9	7
General Environmental issues	2	1	2	2	3	2	-	2	1
Pollution/ Rubbish	*	-	*	*	-	-	-	*	*
Water conservation	*	-	-	-	-	2	-	*	-
Drought	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Famine/ Food shortages	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural disasters – Floods, Earthquakes, Bushfires	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Environmental Issues	10	10	13	8	5	14	-	11	9
Educational Issues	3	3	3	3	6	3	-	4	3
Anger/Violence/Aggression	1	*	2	-	-	-	-	1	*
Crime, Law and Order	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	1
Drugs and drug abuse	1	1	2	2	3	2	-	1	1
Greed/ Corporate Greed/ materialism	1	1	-	1	2	1	-	1	1
Social apathy/Family breakdowns/Selfishness/Moral decline	1	2	*	1	2	-	-	1	2
Social welfare, Welfare Dependency	1	2	1	1	-	2	3	1	2
Youth issues (Homelessness/ Apathy etc.)	*	*	1	1	-	-	-	*	*
Corruption	*	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL Social Issues	10	10	10	9	12	8	3	9	11
Terrorism	2	3	3	3	1	-	-	3	2
Relations with other countries	1	1	3	2	-	1	-	2	1
Security/ safety	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Wars and Conflicts	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	1
World Peace	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Terrorism/Wars/Security/Safety	5	5	7	7	1	1	-	5	4
Sustainable management of natural resources	2	1	1	3	6	7	-	3	1
Energy crisis	1	2	1	1	1	3	-	2	1
Depletion of fossil fuels	*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Petrol Prices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Energy Crisis/ Depletion of Fossil Fuels/Petrol Price	4	3	3	4	7	9	-	5	2
General health issues	3	5	1	3	5	-	13	3	5
Hospitals	*	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	*
TOTAL Health Issues	3	5	1	3	5	-	13	3	5
Other	4	4	3	4	4	5	3	3	4
Can't say	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

*Less than 1%. #Sample sizes under 50 should be treated with caution.

Morgan Poll Accuracy — Recent Elections State & Federal (2006 – 2016)

The Morgan Poll has proven to be consistently the most accurate regular poll in recent Australian Elections — including the 2013 Federal Election, 2010 Federal Election, 2007 Federal Election, 2010 Victorian State Election & 2012 Queensland State Election.

The Morgan Poll was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2013 Federal Election](#) for the two-party preferred vote (L-NP: 53.5% cf. ALP 46.5%) (sample 4,937 electors).

The Morgan Poll was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2007 Federal Election](#) for both primary vote and two-party preferred predictions (sample 2,115 electors).

The Morgan Poll accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Queensland Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 604 electors).

The Morgan Poll accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Victorian Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 956 electors). The Morgan Poll was also the most accurate on the primary vote of the major parties for the Victorian election.

Note: The [discussion on Possum Pollytics](#) regarding Morgan and Newspoll is well worth reading.

The following included comment says it all: “I find it interesting that for the only poll in the last five years for which there is any ‘real’ figure with which to compare, i.e. the polls immediately before the 2004 election, Morgan (45.5%) was closer to the actual Coalition Primary (46.7%) than Newspoll (45%) or Nielsen (49%), and Morgan (38.5%) was also closer to the ALP actual primary (37.6%) than Newspoll (39%), and only marginally further away than Nielsen (37%). Since we have no idea of how far away the ongoing polls are from ‘reality’ (whatever that means), surely we should just go with what we know, that in the most recent testable case, Morgan was better at forecasting the actual primary vote than Newspoll. On what possible basis should we decide that the Newspoll or Nielsen primary vote estimate is ‘better’ than Morgan’s.”

[View Federal Voting Intention Trend](#)